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THE HISTORY OF MAJOR SPORTS IN THE SOUTHWESTERN
NEGRO ATHLETIC CONFERENCE FROM 1920 TO 1947

by

Edgar Lee Vernon Sadberry

A Thesis in Physical Education Submitted in Partial
Fulfillments of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Science

in the

Graduate Division

of

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College
Prairie View, Texas

August, 1947

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DEDICATION

Since the time, energy and effort for the preparation and compilation of this study have been shadowed with many unusual limitations, the writer proposes a broad dedication:

First: To those persons deceased and living, who gave a part of their lives to the organization and development of the Southwestern Negro Athletic Conference.

Second: To my parents, Mrs. Hallie Sadberry, deceased September 18, 1940, and Charles Sadberry of Gause, Texas.

Third: To my son, Vernon Cragg Sadberry, and my seven (7) congenial brothers, Ishmeal Sadberry, Charles Sadberry, Oliver Sadberry, Horatio Edwin Sadberry, Alonzo Jerome Sadberry, Joyal Cornelious Sadberry and John Riley Sadberry.

May the sacred ideals, hopes and aspirations of the above mentioned persons ever find their culmination in this and all other educational and practical activities of my endeavor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writer extends expressions of appreciations and thanks to the following officials of Prairie View A & M College; Division of Graduate Study:

1. Dr J. M. Drew, Director of Arts and Science Division, and Division of Graduate Study.
2. Mr W. J. Nicks, head coach of Prairie View A & M College, and head of the Physical Education Department for his patience, guidance, and directions in the organization and compilation of facts and data revealed in this study.

The writer also acknowledges with deep appreciation and gratefulness, the patience and good will of the entire faculty and student body of the Physical Education Department of Prairie View A & M College for their loyal support in answering questions, supplying materials, documents, and responding to many other informational requests that have been of use in compiling this study. To all coaches and former athletes of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, the writer also extends thanks and appreciations for their promptness and accuracy in supplying much needed data in the compilation of this study.

A Brief Autobiography of The Writer

The writer was born February 13, 1919, and is the seventh child, and youngest son of seven sons born to Charles and Hallie Sadberry of Gause, Texas. He was born and reared on a twelve hundred acre farm and ranch in Burleson County, in a small community about twelve miles northwest of Bryan, Texas. He completed the primary, elementary, and high school work in the "Smith High School" of Gause, Texas on May 27, 1938.

He received his college education from Prairie View State College, having graduated from this institution May 18, 1942, at which time he was awarded the Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture.

On July 1, 1942, he started work as a County Agricultural Extension Agent in Waller County with headquarters at Prairie View College, Prairie View, Texas, where he worked for only a short time before being inducted into the U. S. Army on August 4, 1942.

During the writer's first twelve weeks of his army career, he was promoted from the grade of private to that of master sergeant, and served as the personnel sergeant major for the 95th Aviation Training Wing at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri until February 18, 1943. On February 20, 1943 he was selected to attend the Fort Benning, Georgia Infantry Officer Candidate School. After completing eight weeks of O. C. S. training, he was transferred to the 555th Canadian Paratroopers to receive his commission as a paratrooper officer. He was the first Negro to ever become a member of an officer candidate branch of the Paratroopers. He was injured by a fall as a result of a parachute landing into a tree. After being uncouncious for forty-eight (48) hours, the writer regained conscious and found that

the third column of his lower vertebra had been effected. After spending two (2) months in the Lawson General Army Hospital, the writer was transferred back to the air corps where he was kept under observation until September 7, 1943 and discharged from the army. On October 1, 1943 the writer resumed his position as County Agricultural Agent of Waller County with headquarters at Prairie View College.

After coming back to take up his job as County Agricultural Agent, and working for nine (9) months, the writer was selected to work for the United States Department of Agriculture as a soil conservationist on July 1, 1944, which marked the second Negro in the Nation to work as a soil specialist. After spending two years as a soil conservationist the writer applied for a leave of absence to take advantage of his G. I. Educational provisions to do Post Graduate work at Prairie View A & M College, Prairie View, Texas, where he hopes to receive his M. S. Degree in the Arts and Sciences Division, Physical Education Department, August 8, 1947.

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It is not only the lack of statistics of our Negro basketball players, but also the lack of published work, but particularly literature dealing with American Negro basketball is sparse. Yet there is no more stirring racial history than the story of the adventures of American Negro boys and girls in sports.

Among the few books on Negro athletes discovered on library shelves are an excellent treatise on football by William V. Lewis, and four volumes of the Spelman College Library recording the beginning of organized school and club athletics entitled "Official Football, Basketball, Athletic Association of Middle Atlantic States, for the year 1934-35" edited by the editor of "The Negro in Sports," E. L. Anderson. Little is mentioned about the greatest Negro athlete. There are a few articles of interest appearing in the files of Negro publications, "The Crisis", "Opportunity", "The Messenger," and a number of recent magazines.

In the last (40) years, numerous stories of sports have appeared in various periodicals written by "Grant" Tinker, and other feature writers. Although writers of other races have paid tribute to heroic American athletes as well as Negro athletes from other sections of the globe, none like the regulars of "Up to the Mountains," a publication of the National Society containing four thousand members, completely ignore all references to not only the great Negro athletes, but Negro athletes in

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Although hundreds of books have been published concerning the achievements of colored men and women in various fields, almost nothing is in book form to record the exploits of our Negro Southwest Athletic heroes. Not only is there a dearth of published books, but periodicals literature dealing with Southwest Negro contestants is sparse. Yet there is no more stirring racial history than the story of the adventures of southwest Negro boys and girls in sports.

Among the few books on Negro athletics discovered on library shelves are an excellent treatise on football by William H Lewis, and four volumes of the Spalding Athletic Library recording the beginning of organized school and club athletics entitled "Official Handbook, Inner-Scholastic Athletic Association of Middle Atlantic States, for the year 1910-13", edited by the author of "The Negro in Sports," E. B. Henderson, little is mentioned about the southwest Negro athlete. There are a few articles of interest appearing in the files of Negro publications, "The Crisis", "Opportunity", "The Messenger," and a number of extant magazines.

In the last (40) years, numerous stories of sports have appeared in current periodicals written by "Ghost" Penmen, and other feature writers. Although authors of other races have paid tribute to heroic southwest athletes as well as Negro athletes from other sections of the globe, some like the compilers of "Who's Who in Athletics," a publication of the National Society containing four thousand sketches, completely ignore all references to not only the southwest Negro athlete, but Negro athletes in

general who have won fame on athletic fields. The complete records of Southwest Negro athletes lie buried in the tons of news print volumes that repose in stacks in libraries or in newspaper morgues.

This thesis is hopefully a beginning of a serious effort to put before the Negro youth the story of how major sports have developed in the southwest over a period of twenty-seven (27) years, various changes and improvements made, outstanding athletes, and is also intended to encourage young people to maintain the racial vigor and health handed down to them by our ancestors who have survived the vigors of a severe civilization. Too often in the attempt to secure the luxuries of advanced civilization, races of men have neglected the fundamentals. We must learn to put great value on our heritage of strength, speed, endurance, and respect these activities that were the Glory of Greece and Rome before their people lost grace and vitality in a life of contentment, of ease, and of culture.

I hardly would have attempted this task had it not been for the urging and inspiration of Mr. W. J. Nicks, nor could I have accomplished the effort had he not secured the help and suggestions of Mr. G. O. Bynum, Mr. Wister Lee, Dr. J. M. Drew, Mr. John H Windom, and Mr. George L Smith. Acknowledgement with thanks is also tendered many who offered information, service and materials.

Because of the span of time, the range of space, the lack of written records and the failure of many sources to reply, it has been necessary to depend much upon following leads supplies by interested respondents to whom I hereby express thanks. I regret that for lack of data I could not cover the achievements of many athletes whos performances have been as

outstanding as some of those herein described. Those who might have been most interested neglected to respond to repeated requests.

I am especially grateful for the help given by the sports writers and coaches mentioned in this Thesis. For illustrations, The Amnegro Press, The Houston Informer, The Pittsburg Courier, The Afro-American, Dr. I. T. Hunter, Mr. Alexander Durley, The Reverend Dennis C Fowler, Dr. E. B. Evans, Mr. F. T. Long, Mr. G. L. Smith, Mr. Robert Lee, Mr. W. M. Munford, Mr. C. Felton Gayles, Mr. Wister Lee, Mr. G. O. Bynum, Mr. W. J. Nicks, and particularly Mr B. C. Mise, editor of the Amnegro magazine most helpful, Mr Jimmie Law, and Edward Evans Jr.

CHAPTER II

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Its History

The Southwestern Athletic Conference now composed of eight (8) senior colleges located in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas. The conference was originally organized at the turn of the twenties (20's) and was then known as the Southern Athletic Conference.¹ The charter members of the parent body were as follows: Wiley College, Bishop College, Paul Quinn College, Sam Houston College and Prairie View College have continued an uninterrupted membership since the organization was formed a quarter of a century ago. Bishop ran afoul of the rules and regulations and was penalized by a suspense on two separate occasions, and in 1942 the Baptist institution voluntarily retired from athletic participation for the duration of World War Two (2).

Sam Houston has drawn two suspensions, the first one in 1921 and the second in 1936. The capital city school in Texas regained admission to the conference following their 1936 suspension in 1945.²

Paul Quinn found the financial responsibilities too exacting to carry out her athletic schedule and automatically drew a suspension in 1929 and to this date the A. M. E. school at Waco, Texas is still outside the fold.³

The present membership of the conference follows: Wiley College (Marshall, Texas), Bishop College (Marshall, Texas), Texas College (Tyler,

1. Gilbert, G. L., "The Southwest Sport Trail," Dallas, Texas, Applause Magazine, October 1946, p. 32.

2. Ibid, p. 33

3. Ibid, p.32-41

Texas), Sam Huston College (Austin, Texas), Langston University (Langston, Oklahoma), Arkansas State College (Pine Bluff, Arkansas), Southern University (Scotlandville, Louisiana), and Prairie View A & M College (Prairie View, Texas).

Texas College was admitted to membership in January, 1922, Langston in 1932, Southern University in 1934 and Arkansas State College in 1936. All the later quartet except Southern University have continued as members continuously since their admission. Southern University was granted their request for withdrawal effective January 1, 1937, but the following year the Louisiana school came back into the fold after a limited experience in the S. I. A. A. C. Athletic Conference.¹

Date of Organization

It was on December 24, 1920 at the Oriental Hotel in Houston, Texas when a group of five (5) prominent athletic authorities met to organize and systematize a better athletic program by which schools of the southwest could engage in a more and better competitive athletic program among themselves.

It was not until this meeting of December 24, 1920 that the unorganized conference, then known as the Southern Athletic Conference, was changed and was to be known as the Southwestern Athletic Conference²

Founders

Pioneers who gave to the west the new and profound Southwestern

1. Muse, B. C., "Major Sports in the Southwest", Tyler, Texas, Negro Magazine, November, 1946, p. 12-16

2. Dean, Mohr, "Story of The Southern Athletic Conference," Texas Colored Grid Product Journal, January 1927, p. 1-15

Athletic Conference, as a means of intellectual training for the Negro youth through athletic sportsmanship: Dr. Edward Evans Sr., Prairie View College, Prairie View, Texas; Mr. J. E. Stamps, Paul Quinn College, Waxo, Texas; Rev. D. C. Fowler, Texas College, Tyler, Texas; Mr H C Mason Bishop College, Marshall, Texas; Mr. A. T. Woods, Prairie View College, Prairie View, Texas, only two of the founders of the Southwestern Athletic Conference are yet living to enjoy the fruits and many thrills of the perpetuating association, Dr. E. B. Evans, and Rev. D. C. Fowler.¹

Member Schools of Organization

Bishop College - Marshall, Texas

Wiley College - Marshall, Texas

Prairie View College - prairie View, Texas

Langston University - Langston, Oklahoma

Arkansas State College - Pinebluff, Arkansas

Sam Huston College - Austin, Texas

Southern University - Scotlandville, Louisiana

¹. Ibid., p. 16

Constitution and Eligibility Rules

"Coaches and Official Association of the Southwest Conference."
 "Affiliated with the Southwestern Athletic Conference."

Constitution and by-laws prepared under supervision and administration of J. H. Law, President F. A. Jackson, Vice President E. B. Evans Sr., Secretary-Treasurer - Issued 1935

Coaches and Officials Association of the Southwest: President S. E. Williams; Vice-President C. C. Sampson; and Secretary-Treasurer E. B. Evans.

Constitution

Article I

Name

This organization shall be known as the Coaches and officials Association of the Southwest, affiliated with the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Article II

Purpose

The purpose of the organization shall be the promotion of the welfare of the American inter-collegiate athletic contests by: (a) The development and maintenance of a membership consisting of experienced and capable officials whose integrity is above reproach and who are actively engaged each year in officiating athletic contests; and (b) Fostering a high standard of ethics encouraging fair play, sportsmanship, closer co-operation, and better understanding among officials, athletic directors, coaches, players and the press of the southwest.

Article III

Officers and Elections

(a) The officers of the association shall be a president, a vice-president, and a secretary and treasurer (The last two offices to be held by the same person), and a board of directors,

consisting of the president, secretary-treasurer and the president of the southwestern athletic conference.

(b) Each officer shall be elected by a majority vote at the annual meeting of the association, and shall hold office for a period of one year, or until his successor is elected.

(c) The board of directors shall appoint to office any member to fill a vacancy until such time as a successor is elected.

(d) The duties of the officers, qualifications for membership, or such regulations as may be necessary, shall be provided for in the by-laws.

Article IV

Amendment of Constitution

The constitution may be amended at the regular annual meeting by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the paid up votes cast.

By-Laws

Article I

President

(a) The president shall preside at all meetings of the association; shall have no vote except when there is a tie. He shall conduct all negotiations in behalf of the association and make every effort reasonable to further the policies adopted by this association.

(b) The president of the association shall be elected from among the officials of the association

Article II

Vice-President

The vice-president shall perform the duties of the president in his absence or inability to act.

Article III

Secretary-Treasurer

(a) The secretary-treasurer shall keep all minutes of all meetings of the association. He shall send out all notices, preserve all records, have charge of the necessary printing and publications ordered by the association; He shall collect and have charge of all fees and dues and shall place the receipts in a separate fund from those of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, from which all expense and disbursements authorized by the board shall be made, and shall make an annual report at the regular meeting.

(b) The secretary-treasurer of the association shall be the secretary-treasurer of the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

(c) The secretary-treasurer shall receive and investigate all applicants for membership after they have received the approval required by the by-laws of the associations and shall report them to the board of directors with his recommendations. He shall notify each applicant of his election or rejection and furnish him with all necessary publications of the association.

(d) The secretary-treasurer shall maintain a service record on each member, embracing qualifications, officiating activities, past and current, and all details relative to any members record as an official.

(e) The secretary-treasurer shall keep records of each members schedule, and upon request of athletic directors and coaches, furnish a list of all members having open dates, together with any information which in his opinion, might be relevant in making an impartial and proper selection.

(f) The secretary-treasurer shall send to each member at least known adress a notice suggesting payment of dues and registration in accordance with the provision of Article VI of these by-laws and advising him of the penalty for failure to do so.

Article IV

Board of Directors

(a) The Board of Directors shall act in an advisory capacity to the president; shall entertain and cause to be thoroughly investigated written complaints against any member of the association and shall take what action it may deem advisable.

(b) The Board of Directors shall have full power to adopt all regulations to govern its deliberations, not inconsistent with the constitution and by-laws of the association

Article V

Membership

(a) Every official whose application is approved by the Board of Directors, shall be admitted to membership.

(b) Application for membership shall be made in writing to the secretary-treasurer, on printed form prescribed by the Board of Directors. A fee of \$1.00 covering dues for ensuing year, returnable if the application is rejected, must accompany each application; that a fee of \$0.25, non-returnable, be charged each applicant.

(c) Before September fifteenth, ~~annually~~, each member shall pay his annual dues to the secretary-treasurer.

(d) The membership roll shall be open at all times.

Article VI

Dues

(a) A membership year shall begin the second Saturday in September of each year and end on the same date the next year.

(b) Each member shall pay dues at the rate of \$1.00 per membership.

(c) Members shall pay dues to the secretary-treasurer in advance, and shall accept or reject schedule offered him immediately.

(d) Membership in this organization shall expire at the end of each annual meeting.

(e) Re-instatement shall be made by the Board of Directors subject to the approval of the body.

(f) Uniform of officials shall be white.

Article VII

Officiating Schedule

The Board of Directors shall decide as to the method of accepting of engagements.

Article VIII

Professional Sports

Members may officiate in professional sports with the consent of the Board of Directors.

Article IX

Suggestions to Rules Committee

The president shall make such suggestions to the rules committee as the membership of the association, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, deem advisable.

Article X

Meetings

(a) The annual meeting of the association shall be held on the second Saturday in September, unless the Board of Directors shall fix a different date, in which case the secretary shall promptly notify the members of the change.

(b) Rules shall be discussed and interpreted at the Annual meeting.

(c) Special meetings shall be held at the call of the president and the Board of Directors.

(d) Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by a majority vote of three-fourths of the board.

Article XII

Schools shall furnish equipment for officials - gun, stop-watch, chains, horns, down box, etc.

Article XIII

(a) Officials of all conference games shall be selected

at the annual meeting of the association and a schedule for games and officials be prepared and sent each official and coach by the conference secretary immediately after the annual session.

(b) Schools objecting to officials after agreeing on same and after acceptance by officials shall be required to pay the regular conference pay to the official if he is not used.

(c) If an official is selected for a game and does not serve, he shall be required to pay any additional expense incurred as a result.

(d) If an official notifies the school that he cannot serve and a satisfactory adjustment is made that will be all right if not he shall pay the school his fee.

(e) Officials shall be on the grounds an hour before the game.

Article XIV

The rate of pay for the conference games shall be as follows:

Referee	\$15.00
Umpire	10.00
Head Linesman	10.00
Field Judge	10.00

plus the cheapest railroad fare and entertainment.

Intersectional Games

Referee	20.00
Head Linesman	15.00
Umpire	15.00
Field Judge	15.00

plus the cheapest railroad fare and entertainment.

Article XV

An outstanding football authority shall be secured at the expense of the association to address the association each year at its annual session.

Article XVI

All members of the association shall be bound by the interpretation of rules as adopted by the association.

Article XVII

Vote and Quorum

(a) All financial members are entitled to vote.

(b) Officers of the association shall be elected by ballot and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary for election.

Article XVIII

Expenses

All expenses for printing and expenditures deemed justifiable by the Board of Directors shall be paid from the funds of the treasury.

Article XIX

Amendments

These by-laws shall be amended by a three-fourths vote of all financial members present.

Article XX

Communications from the secretary-treasurer must be answered promptly with return information requested or statement of reason why it must be delayed or withheld.

Article XXI

Members failing to obey, either through negligence or what not, shall be regarded as obstructing the best interests of the association and shall suffer punishment at the discretion of the Board of Directors

Article XXIII

Order of Business

The order of business shall be as follows:

(a) Roll call - collecting dues

- (b) Reading minutes
- (c) Reports of officers
- (d) Unfinished business
- (e) Annual address of football authority
- (f) New business
- (g) Election of officers
- (h) Adjournment

Subject to the constitution and by-laws of the association, Robert's rules of order shall be the official parliamentary guide for the Association." ¹

1. Law, J. H., Jackson, F. A., and Evans, E. B., "Constitution and By-Laws," Coaches and Officials Association of the Southwest Journal, 1935, p. 1-15.

CHAPTER III

INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS

Baseball

Baseball was the original sport fostered by the Southwestern Athletic Conference with championships being awarded at the culmination of each season. The diamond sport before making its demise in 1931 was well supported by all member teams, and is today recognized as the leading intercollegiate sport in the Southwestern Athletic Conference which had its origin back in the early twenties (20's).

For the past fifteen (15) years the intercollegiate sport has failed to garner the necessary support as other intercollegiate sports began to develop, however, this is no discredit to the diamond sport, for it was not intended by the founders of the Southwestern Athletic Conference to allow one intercollegiate sport to be the dominating attraction of the conference, but offer a more balanced variety of activities to be engaged in by athletes in the intercollegiate conference.

Football

Football being the second intercollegiate sport to be fostered by the Southwestern Athletic Conference, has garnered the necessary support to make it the leading intercollegiate sport of all conference activities in the Southwestern Athletic Conference. Twenty-six (26) years ago not a single member school had an athletic set-up that could provide ample seats for five hundred (500) spectators for this intercollegiate sport, and the largest grid classics were considered successful if as many as 1,000 spectators jammed the sidelines at their fall attractions. Now days, the

larger games attract upward from average crowds numbering 6,000 spectators to as high as 20,000 paid admissions.¹

A perusal of the conference football championships since 1922 reveals some striking facts; eg., Prairie View, a state school with the largest enrollment of any member school of the Southwest Conference has been able to annex the title only once, that being in 1931, although she shared the title with Langston University and Wiley College in a three (3) way tie in 1933. Bishop College has been able to win the title one (1) time during the history of the southwestern athletic conference. Sam Huston has been able to win the title only one(1) time also, that being in 1926. Paul Quinn annexed two (2) titles, her first one in 1922 and her final one in 1926. Langston University has won the title one (1) time outright that being in 1939, also she was recognized national champs. Anf for four (4) times the Oklahoma teams have shared the title with one or more members schools of the conference who matched their grid records. Southern University has tied for the conference title two (2) times, and won the title outright in 1946 for the first time. ²

Wiley College has won the title outright on six (6) separate occasions, four of these coming in a row from 1927 through 1930 and one (1) time they were in a tripple tie with Langston University and Prairie View College in 1933. Texas College is the closest rival to Wiley College in the matter of official championships with four(4) to her credit and a fifth one that she shared co-champion with Langston University in 1936.³

¹. Gilbert, G. L., "The Southwest Sport Trail", Dallas, Texas, Applause Magazine, October 1946, p. 30

². Ibid., p. 35

³. Ibid., p. 32

Track

Track came to the Southwestern Athletic Conference in 1931, which also marked the beginning of the Prairie View Relays under the guidance of Mr. Sam Taylor, now head coach at Virginia Union University. The growth of the Prairie View Relays sponsored by Prairie View, The San Jacinto Relays sponsored by Wiley College, and the closed Southwestern Athletic Conference track and field meet sponsored by the Southwestern Conference at Southern University, Scotlandville, Louisiana have enjoyed phenomenal growth and popularity, and provided sports entertainment for all.

Sam Taylor has contributed most to the development of track and field sports in the Southwest. His famed relay teams have participated in the Drake, Pennsylvania, Xavier, Butler, New York, Nebraska, Central Collegiate, National A. A. U., and has had several athletes to go up for an olympic tryout with John Marion qualifying for the Europe tour in 1938. Sam Taylor's relay teams have won and set many records in the distance relays. He also wears the honor as being the only coach in the nation to ever produce a mile relay team to run a 3.17.4 mile relay with exclusively Negro athletes.¹

It was on Friday evening, April 24, 1942, at Drake Stadium, Des Moines, Iowa. Running in the Class "B" college division was Prairie View, an all Negro track team from Texas. It was in the sprint medley relay where Sam Taylor's boys showed their colors on that evening by winning this event in the good time, 3.26.7, which was one second under the old Class "B"

¹Muse, B. C., "Prairie View Track Team Records", The Amnegro Magazine, February, 1947, pp. 32-33.

college division meet record which was 3.27.7. On Saturday evening April 25, 1942, the Drake Relays were about to come to a close, the college division of the mile relay was the last event of the evening; running in land four (4) was a team made up of Negroes exclusively from Prairie View College that broke, won, and set a new meet record in the one (1) mile relay for the college division at the annual Drake relays time 3.18.5.

In February, 1942, at the Butler relays Prairie View's one (1) mile relay team broke, won, and set a new meet record in the one (1) mile relay event, time 3.17.4.¹

Other member schools of the Southwest Conference have developed more interest in track and field sports in the past ten (10) years. Langston University has been known to turn out exceptional men in the field events, also Wiley College, Texas College, Bishop College, and Arkansas State have made a great contribution by producing outstanding sprinters and middle distance trackmen. Southern University stands second to Prairie View in her contribution to the spring and summer sports.

Basketball

Basketball, one of America's few original sports, has been well supported by all member schools in the Southwest Conference. The coming of basketball in the Southwest has brought many enthusiastic movements and thrills to the many spectators who hold the rectangular court sport as America's leading sport where attendance is concerned. Even during the second World War court sport never failed to garner the proper support by member schools of the Southwest, nor did it feel the effect of the draft

¹Ibid., p. 34.

law as deeply as other intercollegiate sports in the Southwest.

Mr. Clifton Felton Gayles of Langston University, veteran coach, of the Oklahoma State institution for over a quarter of a century, has contributed most to the development of basketball in the Southwest. Mr. Gayles' teams have acclaimed more conference, outer-conference, and national honors than any other member school in the Southwest Conference. Mr. Gayles' teams have been known to have gone undefeated over a period of four (4) years taking on such competition as all member teams of the Southwest, and other teams from all sections of the country, even three (3) professional teams have suffered defeats by Mr. Gayles' teams, namely: Harlem Globe Trotters, The Renaissance, and the California Olympic Club. From 1942 to 1945 the Oklahoma team was undefeated by any team, and from 1942 to 1947 the Langston team played 106 games, and lost only three (3). The third game that the Langston team lost was to Southern University early in February, 1947, which marked the first time that a Southwest team had defeated the Langston team in five (5) years.¹

¹Muse, B. C., "Langston's Basketball Record", Amnegro Magazine, Vol. 15, February, 1947, pp. 32-34.

CHAPTER IV

SOME OUTSTANDING ATHLETES IN THE SOUTHWEST
IN EACH SPORT

There is no more stirring history in the past twenty-seven (27) years than the many exploits and achievements of Negro athletes in the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

In the five (5) Southwestern Athletic Conference intercollegiate sports many athletes have gained honors on the gridiron for themselves and their schools. Many contributions have been made toward breaking down racial barriers in many instances.

Following are some of the outstanding athletes that, by their performance, and many efforts put forth on the gridiron, we now enjoy a most progressive Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Baseball

James Sanders - Paul Quinn College

Ray Sheppard - Paul Quinn College

I. T. Hunter - Prairie View College

Lloyd Walker - Texas College

George Livingston - Wiley College

George Lee Williams - Paul Quinn College

Willie Lee Williams - Texas College

Alonzo Wilson - Texas College

Charles Sadberry - Paul Quinn College

Lester Buchanan - Prairie View College

A. I. Watson - Prairie View College

A. C. Hilliard - Prairie View College

William Guy Hunt - Prairie View College

Charlie Walker - Sam Huston College
Leroy Oliver - Sam Huston College
Marion Bates - Prairie View College
Bennie Lucious - Sam Huston College
Pat Caviel - Sam Huston College
William Gilmore - Sam Huston College
Johnnie Aldrage - Sam Huston College
John Hicky - Prairie View College
Robert Derieth Smith - Bishop College
Bradford Harris - Texas College
Walter Shaw - Texas College
L. J. Perry - Bishop College
Louis Williams - Texas College
J. Edward Watkins - Bishop College
Edward Robinson - Texas College
Alonzo Germany - Bishop College
Clifton Craft - Bishop College
Otto Scott - Texas College
Leo Tramble - Texas College
Dewitt Owens - Sam Huston College
Judge Goss - Texas College
Robert Blocker - Sam Huston College
Walter Paine - Texas College
Floyd Sanders - Prairie View College
Vess Johnson - Texas College
Claude Brown - Texas College

Richard Montgomery - Texas College
 Robert Brown - Bishop College
 Peter Dorsey - Bishop College
 Edward Clemons - Paul Quinn College
 W. C. Carr - Texas College
 Jessie Gause - Texas College
 Jessine Cane - Sam Huston College

Football

From the research done in compiling this thesis, facts and figures on the past records of the following men show that by their work we shall know them, and through their individual performance football has been highlighted during the last quarter of a century in the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

(Ends) - C. Marks, Prairie View; Edwin Turner, Texas College; John Williams, Langston; Woodie Culton, Wiley; Alphonso Pyle, Langston; Frank Slider, Prairie View; Harry Joseph, Southern; Sherman King, Prairie View; Archie Lewis, Arkansas State; Arthur Lillie, Prairie View; Henry Staton, Prairie View; A. C. Lincoln, Paul Quinn; R. Nichols, Paul Quinn; S. Taylor, Texas College; L. A. Henry, Texas College; Theo Davis, Bishop; Ashford Williams, Paul Quinn; William Stafford, Prairie View; Sudy Millard, Prairie View; "Brute" Milligan, Prairie View; R. Brown, Wiley; George Livingston, Wiley; D. Makintouch, Wiley; C. Baker, Texas College; and S. Whealey, Sam Huston.

(Tackles) - I. T. Hunter, Prairie View; Harry Street, Langston; Jesse Higgs, Wiley; Mack Hannah, Bishop; Jennings, Paul Quinn; Lucius Davis, Texas College; Arthur Young, Prairie View; Howard Young, Prairie View;

I. T. Nelson, Prairie View; John Montgomery, Prairie View; Sam Cade, Prairie View; William McKinney, Prairie View; E. W. Morgan, Paul Quinn; Leslie Ford, Texas College; Samuel Mosley, Sam Huston; Robert Thomas, Wiley; Theodous Porter, Prairie View; Rogers Givins, Prairie View; John Sampson, Prairie View; Richard Harriton, Prairie View; and Marion Bates, Prairie View.

(Guards) - John Green, Paul Quinn; M. W. Slaughter, Paul Quinn; Herbert Bailey, Prairie View; R. B. Howard, Prairie View; Gentry Lee Powell, Prairie View; Robert Mitchell, Southern; John Stanley, Southern; Emory Hines, Texas College; Dudley Redd, Wiley; Joe Doster, Langston; Willie Moses, Wiley; William Terry, Texas College; L. C. Mosley, Prairie View; David Medlock, Sam Huston; Johnnie Roberson, Sam Huston; and B. T. Grant, Sam Huston.

(Centers) - Sam Price, Prairie View; Quinson Banks, Langston; Guiles Smith, Prairie View; Hugh Porter, Prairie View; Fred Watson, Prairie View; David Mitchell, Texas College; Frank Garrett, Sam Huston; James Sanders, Paul Quinn; W. M. Dillon, Prairie View; Robert White, Bishop; James Rhodes, Prairie View; Charlie Thomas, Prairie View; John Thomas, Prairie View; Willie Woods, Southern; Willie D. Combs, Wiley; Monroe Jackson, Texas College; David Askey, Sam Huston; Milton Sanders, Prairie View.

(Halfbacks) - Howard Love, Prairie View; Patrick Patterson, Wiley; Bill Gayles, Langston; Ray Sheppard, Paul Quinn; Jesse King, Bishop; Pelican Hill, Southern; Wister Lee, Prairie View; Ralph Allen, Texas College; Lloyd Walker, Texas College; Claude Brown, Texas College; Hoggy Murrey, Southern; James Stanley, Prairie View; Jerue Marks, Prairie View; Tom Burton, Prairie View; and August Turner, Prairie View.

(Quarterbacks) - Farley Lewis, Wiley; Clarence Mix, Texas College; E. Harvey, Prairie View; Romeo Pendleton, Bishop; Robert Wister, Wiley; Lincoln Tinsley, Paul Quinn; Cleveland Elliot, Sam Huston; B. T. Grant Sr., Sam Huston; Ashford Hardee, Prairie View; and John Owens, Sam Huston.

(Fullbacks) - Myles Anderson, Texas College; Andrew Hopkins, Prairie View; Willie Lee Williams, Bishop; Benjamin Caviel, Wiley; and James Tate, Langston.

(Best Punters) - John Williams (Distance), Langston; Howard Love (Precision), Prairie View.

(Best Place Kickers) - William Gayles, Langston University; and Claude Brown, Texas College.

(Best Drop Kicker) - Ray Sheppard, Paul Quinn.

(Best Pass Receiver) - Curtis Marks, Prairie View.

Track

(Sprinters) - Hubert Nelson, Wiley; Osborn Pickett, Prairie View; Lee E. Perkins, Prairie View; Raymond Louis, Texas College; Exton Gregg, Sam Houston; Jimmie Coleman, Prairie View; William Batts, Prairie View; James Stanley, Prairie View; Bennie Williams, Texas College; Oneal Baldwin, Prairie View; Leon English, Prairie View; and G. L. Davis, Bishop.

(Middle Distance Runners) - Fred Aliniece, Prairie View; Louis Smith, Prairie View; James Sheppard, Texas College; Joe Mason, Prairie View; Paul Ware, Prairie View; William, Sam Huston; E. Gregg, Sam Huston; Cash Black, Bishop; R. Smith, Arkansas State; G. Akins, Arkansas State; L. Mimms, Wiley; R. Roberson, Wiley; George Mitchell, Southern; John Adams, Wiley; Johnnie Odell, Wiley; George Livingston, Wiley; Gentry Lee Powell, Prairie View; S. A. Sampson, Prairie View; Horatio Sadberry, Prairie View;

Pinkston Bell, Prairie View; Osborn Pickett, Prairie View; Edgar L. Sadberry, Prairie View; Raymond Holley, Bishop; Henry Moore, Bishop; Walter Davis, Bishop; and Clarence Bolden, Southern.

(Distance Runners) - John Marion, Prairie View; Joe Mason, Prairie View; O. D. Williams, Prairie View; Walter Sutton, Bishop; Johnnie Odell, Wiley; David Allen, Wiley; Emanuel Sampson, Arkansas State; James Shepard, Texas College; Lewis Smith, Prairie View; Roscoe Holland, Prairie View; Murdell E. Morris, Prairie View; Napoleon Idlebird, Prairie View; R. A. Sanders, Prairie View; and Earnest Sterling, Prairie View.

(Shot Putters) - Q. Banks, Langston; Lawson, Arkansas State; and Patrick Patterson, Wiley.

(Discus Throwers) - Quinson Banks, Langston; Lawson, Arkansas State; and Patrick Patterson, Wiley.

(Javelin Throwers) - L. Morris, Wiley; Cash Black, Bishop; Julius Hill, Bishop; and Carter, Prairie View.

(Broad Jumpers) - Eural Davis, Prairie View; Carter, Prairie View; James Tate, Langston; Cash Black, Bishop; J. Akins, Arkansas State; Patrick Patterson, Wiley; G. Mitchell, Texas College; Fred Shannon, Bishop; Jessie Woods, Sam Huston; and E. Gregg, Sam Huston.

(Pole Vaulters) - Johnnie Peoples - Wiley; Thomas Chambers, Bishop; Edgar L. Sadberry, Prairie View; Gentry L. Powell, Prairie View; F. Shannon, Bishop; Johnnie Kirkwood, Sam Huston; C. Mimms, Wiley; and Jimmie Powell, Prairie View.

(High Jumpers) - Adam Berry, Southern; Bilton, Prairie View; and F. Shannon, Bishop.

(Hurdles) - G. L. Powell, Prairie View; James Allen, Wiley; Patrick

Patterson, Wiley; and Johnnie Odell, Wiley.

(Cross Country Runners) - Joe Mason, Prairie View; and Lewis Smith, Prairie View.

Basketball

(Forwards) - Solomon Ard, Prairie View; Henry Moore, Bishop; James Tate, Langston; Lloyd Walker, Texas College; Charles Dennard, Prairie View; E. E. Collins, Prairie View; C. Mimms, Wiley; Flash Marshall, Prairie View; Cudgo Twins, Langston; Oscar Pipkin, Jr., Prairie View; and T. P. Cofield, Sam Huston.

(Centers) - Quinson Banks, Langston; Gentry Lee Powell, Prairie View; Monroe Lawson, Jr., Prairie View; John Travis Harris, Bishop; R. Roberson, Wiley; Earnest Smith, Southern; G. Mitchell, Southern; Clarence Lawson, Arkansas State; Ralph Allen, Texas College; and Claude Brown, Texas College.

(Guards) - John Pedegrue, Prairie View; Fred Watson, Prairie View; Oscar Byrd, Wiley; Woodie Culton, Wiley; Jasper Jones, Wiley; Andrew Hopkins, Prairie View; Arthur Young, Prairie View; John Adams, Prairie View; Clarence Britt, Langston; Woodrow Wineberry, Langston; Foster McClure, Langston; Adam Berry, Southern; Robert Lacy, Texas College; and Hubert Sherman, Southern.

Tennis

(Singles) - George Austin, Southern; Lewis Boven, Southern; Virgil Henley, Prairie View; and David Flournoy, Prairie View.

(Doubles) - Virgil Henley and Ralph David Fermoy, Prairie View; George Austin and Lewis Boven, Southern; and T. Neal and Edward Evans, Jr., Prairie View.¹

¹Gilbert, G. L., "The Southwest Sport Trail", Applause Magazine, October, 1946, pp. 15-20.

CHAPTER V

THE OUTSTANDING SOUTHWESTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE
SPORT ATTRACTIONSThe Annual Prairie View-Wiley "Cotton Bowl Classic"

The annual Prairie View-Wiley "Cotton Bowl Classic" staged annually at Dallas, Texas since 1929 tops all other attractions in the Southwestern Athletic Conference in color and attendance and for the past five (5) years the October clash between these two popular Texas schools has drawn between 15,000 and 20,000 fans through the turnstiles at each game.¹

The colorful attraction climaxes the Negro participation in the Texas State Fair, which leads to its good attendance.

The fair carnival and various educational exhibits provide for individuals many thrills and entertainments for the entire day. The morning street parade that precedes the game is very attractive and affords entertainment for the many visitors during the day.

Since October, 1946, the game has been played at night. Just preceding the game the two high schools of Dallas, Texas put on a colorful drill contest which is very fitting and proper to break the monotony, while the spectators are waiting for the two teams to come on the field for their warming-up exercises.

The Lincoln High School band takes its position on the Wiley side, while the Booker T. Washington band takes its position on the Prairie View side.

At the fifteen-minute period just before the starting whistle, the

¹Gilbert, G. L., "The Southwest Sport Trail", Applause Magazine, October, 1946, p. 31.

two queens and their parties from both institutions approach the field from the south entrance of the Cotton Bowl Stadium. They move directly into the stands and take their seats on the fifty-yard line of their respective sides. At the half the presentation of the two queens takes place and an exhibition is put on by both Prairie View and Wiley bands which always proves to be colorful.

Prairie View and Wiley charter a special train for the annual fall attraction. Prairie View, pulling her special train from Houston to Dallas, brings many fans from the south and central parts of Texas; Wiley, pulling her special train from Marshall, brings fans from the extreme east and the Heart of East Texas to this Fall Classic.

By the colorful attraction being staged early in the football season all sport lovers are ready to be a member of that large crowd that the Classic carries with it.

Both institutions have been very persistent in their efforts to an extent that they have almost matched game for game over the seventeen-year period; Wiley has the edge on Prairie View by winning the annual Classic nine (9) times, while Prairie View has won it eight (8).¹

The Texas College and Langston University Game

This annual affair between two of the leading schools in the Southwestern Athletic Conference is the youngest attraction in the Conference.

It has its origin on November 21, 1943, at Fort Worth, Texas with a small number of spectators present for its first year in tenure.

Marion Bates is due the credit for being the instigator of this

¹ Muse, B. C., "The Prairie View and Wiley Game", The Amnegro Magazine, November, 1946, p. 28.

progressing annual classic between the Texas and Oklahoma schools, and can be named as the head founder of the classic, along with the assistance of athletic authorities from the two schools: C. Felton Gayles, Head Coach and Director of Athletics at Langston University; and Alexander R. Durley, Head Coach at Texas College.

This classic is staged annually in the Fort Worth Cattle Bowl in the third week of November; however, it does not bear the "Cattle Bowl" name because an official name has not yet been given it, and it is known as the Fort Worth "Langston and Texas College Classic".

The classic is gaining popularity and the attendance has increased considerably over that of 1943, which only had 1,500 spectators to witness the occasion. In 1946, a huge crowd of 6,000 passed through the turnstiles.

The classic draws fans from all sections of Texas and Oklahoma, with Central Texas and Oklahoma being the main supporters.

The two teams have divided the four games played at the present; Langston won the first and the fourth, while Texas College won two in a row, the second and third. Langston edged out over Texas in 1943 7 to 6; Texas edged out over Langston 7 to 6 in 1944. In 1945 Texas won 12 to 7, and in 1946 Langston won 20 to 19.¹

The Texas College and Wiley College Game

This game is staged on the home and home basis. The game is played on the campus of each respective school every other year. It is the most colorful game staged in the Southwest other than the Prairie View and

¹Wesley, Carter, "Texas College Drops a Hard One", The Houston Informer, November 30, 1946, p. 12.

Wiley "Cotton Bowl Classic".

There is a huge crowd present every year to witness the clash between the two church schools. The two schools, being located geographically in the most progressive Negro populated part of Texas, provide for its excellent support by spectators.

Both schools have always produced fine teams during their membership tenure in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, and the time of the football season in which the game is always played both teams have had a chance to reach their peaks for the clash. The competitive attitude that exists between the two church institutions in general leads to this hard-fought game.

During the history of the classic between the two schools there have been two scoreless ties and two deadlock ties; other games have been won outright by one or the other.

Texas College has been able to win a margin of two (2) games over Wiley during the history of the classic.¹

Homecoming Games

Homecoming games on all member school campuses are always well-attended because they carry with them a variety of events and provide a most colorful reunion for the sons and daughters of the respective institution.

Each school tries to arrange its homecoming game to be played about the middle of the football season, as the football spirit is generally higher at this time than any other time in the season. Pep meetings are generally held for one week preceding the homecoming games on member

¹Durley, A. R., "Texas and Wiley Game", The Texas Steer, November, 1946, p. 5.

school campuses, with a pigskin review staged on the last night preceding the game with the bonfire as the feature event of the evening.

On the morning of homecoming, a parade is staged and many beautiful floats representing various activities and departments of the institutions are presented.

The homecoming evening is generally climaxed by a student dance for the visitors, and on some member school campuses there is a faculty and alumni dance staged after the student dance.

The Southwestern Conference Track and Field Meet

The Conference track and field meet was organized in the early thirties, which is a closed meet for only member schools of the Southwestern Athletic Conference. The meet has been well attended by all member schools and a 100 per cent participation has been maintained through the tenure of the meet.

Competition is always keen in this colorful track and field meet due to the fact that fewer events are participated in by athletes, and this allows teams to concentrate their efforts on a limited variety of events.

The closed meet has been held at Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meet was first held at Arkansas State College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, but after Southern University completed the construction of a more adequate track to accommodate the meet, it was fitting and proper for the coaches and officials to hold the meet at the Louisiana school.

CHAPTER VI

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE TEAMS' RECORDS AGAINST
OTHER CONFERENCE TEAMSThe Prairie View Relays

The Prairie View Relays had its origin April 12, 1931, under the guidance of Samuel Moses Taylor, Dr. E. B. Evans, Sr., Dr. F. A. Jackson, and Mr. C. W. Lewis. The attraction is known as the Prairie View Inter-collegiate Relays and Tennis Tournament.¹

The tennis tournament and relay carnival draw outstanding athletes from Negro colleges throughout the country. The relays and tennis tournament are open to all recognized conference teams.

In 1941 the attraction brought nineteen (19) colleges and universities to the Texas state Negro institution, including the Olympic Club team from California.

Such outstanding athletes as Moez Ellerbe of Tuskegee, internationally known sprinter; Thompson of Xavier, a nationally known high jumper; Leo Torrant of Alabama State College, a nationally known sprinter; John Marion of Prairie View, an internationally known distance star; Nelson of Wiley, nationally known sprinter; John Farmer of Xavier, a nationally known pole vaulter; Eural Davis of Prairie View, a nationally known broad jumper; Fred Aliniece of Prairie View, nationally known middle distance star, were present.

Prairie View has been able to win the high point trophy only twice in the seventeen (17) year old attraction, that being in 1946 and in 1947

¹Evans, E. B., Minutes and Records of Prairie View Athletic Council, Prairie View College, Prairie View, Texas, 1932.

under the administration of Mr. W. J. Nicks as Head Coach. Tuskegee Institute of Alabama and Xavier University of New Orleans, Louisiana have dominated the meet through the years.¹

Prairie View has dominated the winning of the mile relay event with Tuskegee Institute being second and Xavier third.

Prairie View has dominated the Southwestern Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament with Xavier University second and Tuskegee Institute third. Such outstanding tennis stars as Scott of Prairie View, McDaniel of Xavier, Cohen of Xavier, Russel of Tuskegee, Minnis of Tuskegee, Walker, Carpenter, McMillan, Lawson, and Taylor of Prairie View have performed at the annual tennis carnival.²

Post-Seasonal Football Games

Post-seasonal football games are generally played by all members of the Southwestern Athletic Conference teams annually at the end of the regular football season, and in most cases Southwestern Conference teams generally play teams of other conferences, but not in all cases for figures, facts, and records show that four (4) of the member schools of the Southwestern Athletic Conference have met each other in post-seasonal games, those being Wiley College, and Prairie View on three (3) occasion at Houston, Texas; Southern University and Langston University on two (2) occasions, one at Oklahoma City and the other at Houston, Texas.

Some of the outstanding post-seasonal games that have been played between Southwestern teams are as follows: Florida A and M College and

¹Muse, B. C., "Prairie View Team Tops P. V. Relays with 50 Points", Amnegro Magazine, May, 1947, p. 30.

²Ibid., p. 31.

Prairie View, Florida A and M and Texas College, Tuskegee Institute and Prairie View, Prairie View and Xavier University, Arkansas State College and Lane College, Prairie View and Lincoln University of Missouri, Florida A and M College and Wiley College, Langston University and Tennessee State, Langston University and Xavier, Southern University and Xavier University, and Southern University and Tuskegee are some of the important post-seasonal games that have been played by Southwestern Athletic Conference teams.

Figures show that teams from other conferences have gone undefeated through their schedules until a post-seasonal game is played with a member team of the Southwestern Athletic Conference team. For instance, Prairie View College, a member team of the Conference, has won the Conference title only once and has her first time to be national champion, but she has knocked Florida A and M College of the national champ ladder on one (1) occasion, that being in 1938 by a score of 28 to 14. Tuskegee Institute has had the same thing to happen to her by Prairie View in 1930, after she had gone undefeated throughout the entire season and selected to play Prairie View in the Houston New Year's Day classic; Tuskegee's clear record was spoiled by Prairie View by a score of 6 to 0.¹

Texas College knocked Florida A and M College from the national ladder in 1943 by handing the national aspiring Florida team a 12 to 7 defeat.

In 1945 Langston University knocked Tennessee State out of the national race with Florida A and M College and Wiley College, which marked the only defeat that Tennessee State suffered the entire season, and Langston was rated third in the Southwestern Athletic Conference - score

¹Gilbert, G. L., "Southwest Sports", Applause Magazine, Vol. 5, January, 1946, p. 20.

6 to 0.¹

In 1945 Wiley College defeated Florida A and M College by a score of 32 to 13 to mark the fourth national championship that a Southwestern Athletic Conference team has won.

When the weather is fair, post-seasonal football games draw a tremendous crowd, and schools profit greatly financially.

¹Gilbert, G. L., "Southwest Sports", Applause Magazine, October, 1946, p. 34.

CHAPTER VII

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Football

<u>Schools</u>	<u>Year</u>
Paul Quinn College	1922
No Champion	1923
Paul Quinn College	1924
Bishop College	1925
Samuel Huston College	1926
Wiley College	1927
Wiley College	1928
Wiley College	1929
Wiley College	1930
Prairie View College	1931
Wiley College (National Champs)	1932
Langston-Wiley-Prairie View (Co-Champions)	1933
Texas College	1934
Texas College (National Champions)	1935
Texas College - Langston (Co-Champions)	1936
Texas College	1937
Southern-Langston (Co-Champions)	1938
Langston University (National Champions)	1939
Langston-Southern (Co-Champions)	1940
No Champion	1941
Texas College	1942
Texas College (Unofficial)	1943

<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>
Texas-Wiley-Langston (Unofficial Co-Champions)	1944
Wiley College (National Champions)	1945
Southern University	1946
<u>Track</u>	
Prairie View College	1934
Prairie View College	1935
Prairie View College	1936
Prairie View College	1937
Prairie View College	1938
Bishop College	1939
Arkansas State College	1940
Prairie View College	1941
Prairie View College	1942
Southern University	1943
Prairie View College	1944
Southern University	1945
Prairie View University	1946
Wiley College	1947
<u>Basketball</u>	
Langston University	1929
Langston University	1930
Langston University	1931
Prairie View College	1932
Prairie View College	1933
Langston University	1934

<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>
Wiley College	1935
Wiley College	1936
Bishop College	1937
Wiley College	1938
Southern University	1939
Bishop College	1940
Langston University	1941
Langston University	1942
Langston University	1943
Langston University	1944
Langston University	1945
Langston University	1946
Langston University	1947
<u>Tennis</u>	
Prairie View College	1939
Southern University	1940
Southern University	1941
Southern University	1942
Southern University	1943
Southern University	1944
Southern University	1945
Southern University	1946
Prairie View College	1947
<u>Baseball</u>	

The Southwestern Athletic Conference had its first organized base-

ball pennant race in 1927; it was called the big five (5) pennant race as only five teams composed the conference: Sam Huston, Paul Quinn, Texas College, Wiley and Prairie View. Bishop, however, had been admitted back to the fold after withdrawing from the conference in 1921 but did not take part in the 1927 baseball pennant race.¹

Conference Championships in Baseball

<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>
Texas College	1927
Texas College	1928
Texas College	1929
Wiley College	1930
Wiley College	1931

Baseball had its demise in 1931, which also marked the up-swing of track and field sports as conference activities.²

¹Mohr, Dean, "Story of the Southern Athletic Conference", Texas Colored Grid Product Journal, January, 1927, p. 15.

²Evans, E. B., Sr., and Smith, G. L., "Minutes of the Southwestern Athletic Conference", Record Ledger, 1920-1947, inclusive.

CHAPTER VIII

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The importance of keeping an authentic record of all athletic activities that take place within the Southwestern Athletic Conference has been emphasized in this study. Football has claimed the attention and dominates the Conference as its leading intercollegiate sport.

The majority of athletes of the Southwestern Athletic Conference do not coach after receiving their degrees. On an average, member schools stay within the bounds of the constitution and by-laws. Member schools are not subsidized on equal bases.

Football trickery is becoming more prevalent in the Southwestern Athletic Conference. On an average, member schools, public relations, and publicity set-up do not do justice to the institutions.

It is recommended that;

1. Financial assistance from conference to aid member schools in furthering the pursuits of outstanding track and field stars be given. Individuals who have made outstanding records in local and conference competition should be given the opportunity to compete in meets of national prominence which will add prestige to the Southwestern Athletic Conference.
2. Conference representation in the National Association of football, basketball and track and field events be made. Representatives should be selected by alternating annually until each school of conference has been represented. All expenses should be paid by the Southwestern Athletic Conference.
3. More rigid enforcement of conference eligibility rules, es-

pecially those pertaining to scholarship requirements of athletes be enacted.

4. A Southwestern Athletic Conference Annual of all activities should be kept and copies sent to member schools on basis of membership at the earliest possible date ending the conference year.
5. Expansion of publicity and public relations be done.

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